

## Mann, Laurie

---

**From:** Mann, Laurie  
**Sent:** Monday, August 03, 2015 10:39 AM  
**To:** Croxton, Dave; Nickel, Brian  
**Cc:** Mullin, Michelle  
**Subject:** draft response to reporter (please reply with comments!)

Don,

We want to make sure we are on the same page regarding the sources of PCBs in the Spokane River. In your email, you indicated that 8% of PCBs in the Spokane River are coming from point source dischargers, and that the rest of the PCBs are the coming from consumer products.

We believe that you misunderstood the information that was provided to you by members of the Task Force, and we want you to know that PCBs originating from consumer products are unlikely to be a major contributor to the PCB impairments in the Spokane River.

The PCB impairments in the Spokane River are unusually high relative to other parts of the State, and are likely the result of legacy contamination from industrial use of PCBs prior to the ban on PCB manufacturing in 1979. If consumer products were the primary source of PCB contamination in the Spokane River, we would expect to see high levels of PCB contamination through Washington – and we don't.

The primary *pathways* for contamination include point sources dischargers (including stormwater from the City of Spokane), air deposition, and tributaries; and the original *sources of contamination* include contaminated soil, contaminated groundwater, building materials, electrical equipment, and consumer products. EPA is concerned about all of these potential sources, and strongly supports the work of the Task Force to further delineate the sources of PCB loading in the Spokane watershed.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact us. EPA's response to the remainder of your questions are included below:

---

Nonresponsive

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]